

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY PANEL HELD IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2/3, CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND ON WEDNESDAY, 10 JANUARY 2007 AT 11.00AM

Present: -

Councillor R M Granville - Chairperson

Councillors

K S Hunt
C E Hughes
G C Lewis

Councillors

K Watkins
H M Williams

Observers:

Mr A Marshall - Ramblers Association
Mr L Meachim - Footpath Secretary

Officers:

Mr A Mason - Highways Officer
Mr D Mortimer - Highways Officer
Mr C Lewis - Planning Officer
Mr R S Hughes - Legal Officer
Miss J Dessant - Legal Officer
M A Galvin - Senior Cabinet and Committee Officer

41 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the following Member and Observer:-

Councillor James - Hospital Appointment
Mr G Wheeler of the British Horse Society

42 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

43 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of a special meeting of the Rights of Way Panel dated 12 September 2006, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

44 PROPOSED DIVERSION OF FOOTPATH NO. 13 COMMUNITY OF CORNELLY

The Executive Director - Environment submitted a report, the purpose of which, was to request authorisation for the making of an Order, seeking to divert the above Footpath to enable planning consent (Ref. 06/1354) to be implemented.

The proposed route was shown on the plan attached to the report at Appendix 'A', which confirmed that this route would follow that which is currently used in lieu of the existing Footpath within the garden area of the adjacent dwelling.

The report then expanded further upon details of the proposed route, including details of its width, what materials it would be made up of and where it would commence and terminate, with the assistance of landmarks, including consideration of maintenance and ownership rights and the inclusion of proposed (or existing) gates, and waymarks, etc.

Prior to the meeting and full consideration of the report, a site visit of the proposed route was undertaken by Members of the Panel together with Officers.

Following consideration of the report, certain Members of the Panel raised some concern over the landowners stock wandering from his land, possibly via the route of the new path into the surrounding areas, and perhaps to alleviate this, a stile could be provided at the point of the wooden gate to the northern side of the site.

An Officer responded by confirming that they will monitor this potential problem accordingly, but that the provision of any such stile would probably have to be alongside the route rather than on it, which may potentially involve complications that Officers would have to look at, should the need for the provision of this be confirmed.

The Panel agreed with the Officer's advice in this instance.

- RESOLVED:
- (1) That authorisation be given for the Director of Legal and Democratic Services to make the necessary Order(s) to seek to divert Footpath 13, Community of Cornelly, as shown on Appendix 'A' to the report, and to confirm this/these Order(s), provided no objections or representations are made within the prescribed period, or if any so made, are withdrawn.
 - (2) That the Order(s) excludes any section of the diversion, which utilises highways which are maintainable by Bridgend County Borough Council, as public rights already exist over them.

45 CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairperson announced that Mr Marshall had asked him before the meeting, if he could bring a matter to the Panel's attention for consideration, to which he agreed.

Mr Marshall advised the Panel that the Newcastle Higher Community Council were endeavouring to get a path formally adopted as a Public Right of Way.

The path was in the vicinity of Plas Ty Mawr, and Clos y Talcen/Clos Smyrna, Penyfai, proceeding up the hill and terminating at Hillside, Penyfai.

Mr Marshall added that the path had been in existence since the 1920's or 1930's and that the Community Council were in the process of accumulating evidence of its confirmed use as a public right of way, since this time.

He added that the land was both owned and maintained by the County Borough Council, and that it was regularly utilized by patrons of the nearby housing developments, including children going and coming home from the local school.

RIGHTS OF WAY PANEL – 10 JANUARY 2007

He advised that the Newcastle Higher Community Council would soon be considering making an application to this Authority for the route to be considered as an official public Right of Way.

The Community Council were also applying for a licence to undertake improvement works to the route, the costs of which would be borne by them.

The meeting closed at 11.30am.